




# Sully Spotlight

Heroes Live Forever  
Badge 1417  Badge 2806

## February 2007

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### Events of Interest for the Month

- ☞ Sun., Feb. 4—Super Bowl
- ☞ Mon., Feb. 19—President's Day
- ☞ Tues., Feb. 20—CAC Meeting, 7:30 p.m., 4900 Stonecroft Blvd.

## National Child Passenger Safety Week February 11-17, 2007

- ◆ Everybody needs a child safety seat, booster seat or safety belt!
- ◆ There must be one safety belt for each person. Buckling two people, even children, into one belt could injure both.
- ◆ People who are not buckled up can be thrown from the car, or around inside the car, and seriously hurt themselves or others.
- ◆ Never hold a child on your lap! You could crush him/her in a crash, or the child may be torn from your arms.
- ◆ Never ride in the cargo area of a station wagon, van or pickup! Anyone riding in the cargo area could be thrown out and severely injured or killed.
- ◆ No one seat is 'best', the 'best' child safety seat is the one that fits your child and can be installed correctly.
- ◆ Children age 12 and under should ride properly restrained in back.

**AGE:** Birth to one year

**WEIGHT:** Up to 20 pounds

**TYPE OF SEAT:** Infant-only or rear-facing convertible

**AGE:** Over one year to four years old

**WEIGHT:** Over 20 pounds, up to 40 pounds

**TYPE OF SEAT:** Convertible or forward-facing only seat

**AGE:** Four to six years old

**WEIGHT:** Between 40 pounds and 80 pounds

**TYPE OF SEAT:** Belt-positioning booster seat, backless

*Do it because  
you love them.*

Show your kids  
you love them, by keeping  
them alive, put them all in  
booster seats every  
time you  
drive.

**Raise your child right. If they're under 4'9", put them in a booster seat.**

**[www.boosterseat.gov](http://www.boosterseat.gov)**



# Child Safety Seats Save Lives

- ✂ According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), approximately 7,500 lives have been saved by the proper use of child restraints during the past 20 years.
- ✂ Motor vehicle crashes still remain the number one killer of children ages four to 14 in America.
- ✂ In 2005, an average of five children ages 14 and younger were killed and 640 were injured in motor vehicle crashes every single day.
- ✂ Children ages four to eight who use booster seats are 59 percent less likely to be injured in a car crash than children who are restrained only by a seat belt, according to a study by Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP).
- ✂ While 98 percent of America's infants and 93 percent of children ages one to three are now regularly restrained, not enough children ages four through seven are restrained *properly* for their size and age.
- ✂ Only 10 to 20 percent of children ages four through seven who should be using booster seats to protect them are actually *in* them. This puts children at an unnecessary risk of being injured or killed in crashes because they are simply in the wrong restraint for their size and age.
- ✂ One study showed that children ages two to five who are moved to seat belts too early have four times the risk of a head injury in a crash.
- ✂ Children ages four through seven are generally too small for adult seat belts and need a "boost" to ensure the seat belt will fit securely across their chests and low across the upper thighs—to help prevent internal injuries, neck, head and spinal injuries, and even ejection and death in the event of a crash.
- ✂ The use of booster seats compared to the use of adult seat belts alone lowers the risk of injury to children in crashes by 59 percent.

**If They're Under 4'9", They NEED a Booster Seat**

-- MORE --

As children grow, how they need to be secured in a car, truck, van or SUV changes. For maximum child passenger safety, parents and caregivers simply need to remember and follow the **4 Steps for Kids**:

- 1) For the best possible protection keep infants in the back seat, in rear-facing child safety seats, as long as possible up to the height or weight limit of the particular seat. At a minimum, keep infants rear-facing until a minimum of age one and at least 20 pounds;
- 2) When children outgrow their rear-facing seats (at a minimum age one and at least 20 pounds) they should ride in forward-facing child safety seats, in the back seat, until they reach the upper weight or height limit of the particular seat (usually around age four and 40 pounds);
- 3) Once children outgrow their forward-facing seat (usually around age four and 40 pounds), they should ride in booster seats, in the back seat, until the vehicle seat belts fit properly. Seat belts fit properly when the lap belt lays across the upper thighs and the shoulder belt fits across the chest (usually at age eight or when they are 4'9" tall);
- 4) When children outgrow their booster seats, (usually at age eight or when they are 4'9" tall) they can use the adult seat belt in the back seat, if it fits properly (lap belt lays across the upper thighs and the shoulder belt across the chest).

Some parents or caregivers may regard booster seats as a hassle to use or a pain to convince their children to use. But protecting the ones we love means getting past the temporary complaints and perceived hassles because the lives of children really are at risk. Do it because you love them. Do it because it could save their lives. Make it the law of your car.

This year at Valentine's, during Child Passenger Safety Week (Feb. 11-17), remind all parents, grandparents and caregivers to raise their children right. If they're under 4'9", put them in a booster seat.

The three most common mistakes in installing a child safety seat are (1) not attaching the seat correctly and tightly to the car or truck, (2) not fastening the harness tightly enough, and (3) not using the chest clip or using it incorrectly.

All 50 states and the District of Columbia have laws requiring children to be restrained in cars. Make sure you know the laws of your state and make it the law of your car.

For more information about Child Passenger Safety Week and the proper use of booster seats, please visit [www.BoosterSeat.gov](http://www.BoosterSeat.gov), [www.SaferCar.gov](http://www.SaferCar.gov) and [www.SeatCheck.org](http://www.SeatCheck.org).

<http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/injury/childps/CPSPlanner2007/em/2007CPSFactSheet.doc>



# *Looking For a Few Good Volunteers*



The Fairfax County Police Department is pleased to announce that its elite Auxiliary Police Program has accomplished more this past year than any previous year in its 22-year history. The Auxiliary Police Officer Program has over 100 sworn volunteers and has provided Fairfax County with over 51,177 hours of service last year.

The class for 2007 will begin soon and additional candidates to join the program are needed. After completing the comprehensive training program, which includes training in emergency vehicle operations and firearms, candidates graduate and proceed to training with a police officer. Auxiliary officers get involved with virtually every part of the police department and once completed, will participate in special events such as DWI checkpoints, Safe December, directing traffic, assisting at crime scenes, performing crime prevention surveys and many interesting activities. The program allows working in the neighborhood with the local crime prevention officer by supporting the Community Action Council and Neighborhood Watch activities.

Basic qualifications include the following: be at least 21 years of age, not employed in a position that is a conflict of interest, not an applicant for a police office position, in good health, without a criminal record or history of drug use. Applicants must also pass a background check, applicant exam and polygraph exam. To request an application please e-mail [auxiliarypolice@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:auxiliarypolice@fairfaxcounty.gov) or call the Auxiliary Coordinator at 703-280-0576.



## *Citizens Police Academy* *March 15 – May 19, 2007*

The Fairfax County Police Department is now accepting applications for its spring Citizens Police Academy. The Citizens Police Academy offers Fairfax County citizens a better understanding of the Police Department and a greater awareness of the daily challenges faced by its officers.

The Citizens Police Academy is a ten-week program designed to provide members of the public a unique "glimpse behind the badge." Attendees will have an opportunity to learn about departmental resources, programs and most importantly, the men and women who comprise the Fairfax County Police Department, an organization nationally recognized as a leader in the law enforcement community.

Classes are a combination of lecture and interactive activities. Topics include SWAT and special operations, gangs, 911 communications center, patrol, crime prevention, crime scene, identity theft and a tour of the Adult Detention Center.

The spring Citizens Police Academy will be held on Thursday evenings from March 15 through May 19, 2007. Classes meet from 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., with the exception of graduation which will be held on Saturday, May 19 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Class locations will be held at various police facilities throughout the county.

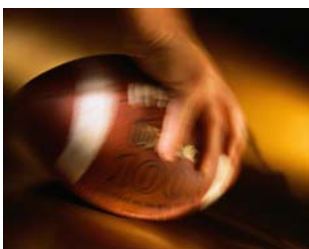
The program is offered free of charge. Applicants are required to live or work in Fairfax County, be 18 years of age and provide their own transportation to and from training. Acceptance is subject to review of the applicant's criminal record and police contact history.

For more information or an application form, please call 703-280-0713.

## If you are hosting a Super Bowl Party.....

- 👍 Make sure all of your guests designate their sober drivers before kick-off, or help arrange ride-sharing with other sober drivers.
- 👍 Find unique ways to recognize the designated drivers at your party
  - 👍 Give them a great spot to watch the game.
  - 👍 Whatever non-alcoholic beverage they are drinking, make sure their glass is always full.
  - 👍 Let them have the first pass at the buffet table.
  - 👍 Make sure their cars are easy to access so they are ready when it comes time to start driving people home.
- 👍 Serve plenty of food—and include soft drinks, juice and water.
- 👍 Stop serving alcoholic beverages in the third quarter of the game (just like NFL stadiums) and begin serving coffee and dessert.
- 👍 Program the number of local cab companies into your phone so they are just one touch away.
- 👍 Take the keys away from anyone who is thinking about driving while impaired.

*National statistics show that the demographic at greatest risk of being involved in a fatal crash are males 18-34 years of age. Market research also shows this demographic has a high consumption of sports and entertainment as well as related consumer products.*



**Sunday, February 4**

# Sully District Station Child Seat Inspections

Is your child seat installed properly? Is it the correct seat for the child's age and weight? Did you know that your Sully District Station offers free child seat inspections by certified technicians?

**Next available dates:** Thursday, February 8, 2007 5 p.m.—8:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, February 13, 2007 5 p.m.—8:30 p.m.  
Thursday, February 22, 2007 5 p.m.—8:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, February 27, 2007 5 p.m.—8:30 p.m.



No appointment is necessary. Our technicians request that you make an effort to install your child safety seats yourself, so that they may properly inspect and make adjustments, as necessary. For additional child seat inspection times, you may call the Fairfax County Operations Support Bureau at 703-280-0559.



## Community Wide Neighborhood Watch Training

The Sully District Crime Prevention Office will be providing Neighborhood Watch training for the community on Thursday, March 1 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., at the Sully District Police Station, 4900 Stonecroft Boulevard. The training is open to already established Neighborhood Watches that have new members in need of training. Those interested in starting new, or reactivating old, Neighborhood Watches should contact the Sully District Crime Prevention Office to set up a training date for your community. The number to call is 703-814-7018.

## CAC Corner



The Sully District Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2007, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Sully District Government Center, 4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly. The guest speaker will be retired police officer Tom Polhemus who works in the Fairfax County Police Department's financial crimes unit. He will be talking about Internet fraud.

Anyone who lives or works in the Sully District is encouraged to attend. We hope to see you there!

Sully District Police Station  
4900 Stonecroft Boulevard  
Chantilly, VA 20151

Main Phone 703-814-7000  
Fax 703-814-7013

File a Report on Line  
[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ps/police/homepage.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ps/police/homepage.htm)

Virginia Amber Alert  
<http://www.vaambersalert.com>

Aggressive Driving—  
Report Online at  
[https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ps/police/traf\\_sfty\\_report.htm](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ps/police/traf_sfty_report.htm)



#### PHONE NUMBERS

Fairfax County Crime  
Solvers :  
1-866-411-TIPS

Fairfax County Police  
Non-Emergency:  
703-691-2131

Sully District Crime  
Prevention Office:  
703-814-7018

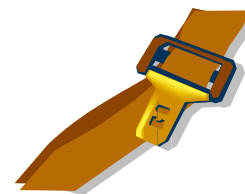
Child Car Seat  
Installation:  
Sully District Station  
703-814-7000 x 5140

SAFE (Self Defense Class)  
703-246-7806

Citizen Reporting System  
(to file reports only )  
703-464-4756



## Traffic Trivia



**Code of Virginia § 46.2-1095. *Child restraint devices required when transporting certain children; safety belts for other children less than sixteen years old required; penalty.***

A. Any person who drives on the highways of Virginia any motor vehicle manufactured after January 1, 1968, shall ensure that any child, through age five, whom he transports therein is provided with and properly secured in a child restraint device of a type which meets the standards adopted by the United States Department of Transportation.

B. Any person transporting any child less than sixteen years old, except for those required pursuant to subsection A to be secured in a child restraint device, shall ensure that such child is provided with and properly secured by an appropriate safety belt system when driving on the highways of Virginia in any motor vehicle manufactured after January 1, 1968, equipped or required by the provisions of this title to be equipped with a safety belt system, consisting of lap belts, shoulder harnesses, combinations thereof or similar devices.

C. A violation of this section shall not constitute negligence, be considered in mitigation of damages of whatever nature, be admissible in evidence or be the subject of comment by counsel in any action for the recovery of damages in a civil action.

D. A violation of this section may be charged on the uniform traffic summons form.

E. Nothing in this section shall apply to taxicabs, school buses, executive sedans, limousines, or the rear cargo area of vehicles other than pickup trucks.

(1982, c. 634, § 46.1-314.2; 1984, c. 280; 1986, c. 283; 1989, c. 727; 1992, cc. 119, 405; 1997, c. 793; 2000, c. 736; 2002, cc. 358, 616, 660.)



Newsletter compiled by PFC Mary Hulse